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The Prospector And The Pay Streak.

The growth of the pay streak. Quite a number of authorities claim that "gold grows," and many mining men claim that the statement is a correct one, although there is a great diversity of opinion on this subject among those who claim to be posted on geological matters and the chemical and physical conditions which result in the deposition of the precious metals in veins and fissures. We leave this matter for their consideration, and will take up the question of the growth of the pay-streak,—of the new-found deposit of rich ore which, from a streak of from one or two inches, attains the magnificent size of two or four feet in a week, in a month, and always during the absence of its owner.

More than one instance can be cited in the west where a prospector, developing his claim, has uncovered a small seam of rich ore in its workings. Trembling with excitement he gathers picked samples from the new find and starts for the nearest town with his treasures. Before going a mile the pay-streak has widened from one to four inches, (in his mind.) By noon his little bonanza vein has widened to six inches. He is fully satisfied that this is true. Arriving at his destination he shows his samples to his friends and tells them that the pay-streak is a foot in width. By morning he has two feet of this class and character of ore. His friends are enthusiastic over his find, which by night has gained in dimensions so that a yard-stick would hardly take in its magnitude,—to make a showing in the morning of four feet or more.

The prospector is happy and he firmly believes the story that he is telling. And some of his acquaintances believe him, and, to such an extent that they are willing to pay him a fancy figure for a share in his find. Finally the deal is consummated. The new co-owners, with provisions and supplies, leave for the scene of the new strike. On the way back the prospector begins to feel troubled. Suppose the vein is not quite as wide as he has stated, and, if this is the case, what will his friends say? Before reaching the mine he does not seem to feel as cheerful as when he set out, and he begins to lag behind the party; and, as the portal of the short tunnel is approached he feels a tugging at his throat. His knees feel shaky and he notices a pain in the region of his heart. His illusions have flown one by one and he knows that he is now face to face with the reality of cold facts. If he were a hundred miles away he would feel much better, and he realizes fully the dreadful mistake he has made when his companions enter the tunnel and find that his four-foot vein of high-grade ore has dwindled down to one inch. Their wrath and fury is not abated in the least when he ventures the feeble explanation that he thought it was so.

As a matter of fact, the prospector was really honest in his beliefs. He was not a natural-born liar, and he had no real intention of deceiving his friends. His action was a natural one. The wish was the father of his thought, and it was as natural for him to exaggerate his possessions as it is for every mining man to pick out the very choicest specimen in his mine to show to his friends; and there are many who judge the value of a mine from picked specimens in their possession.

There is an overwhelming demand in this western country for good mines and prospects, but the demand exceeds the supply. Experts, in the employ of capitalists, of syndicates, are daily scouring the country for bonanzas—and many are found—but, in a majority of cases, upon careful and intelligent examination of reported new finds of fabulous wealth it is found that they exist only in the imagination of the hard-working but too enthusiastic prospector.

But we forgive him. It is his failing,—a fault that creeps out in transactions in every line of business, in

almost every industry. He is no more than human, and there is no doubt but that, in the end, he will give to the world a new source of wealth,—a pay-streak that will grow until it has poured its millions into the channels of trade and commerce.—Salt Lake Mining Review.

To Build Smelter.

A. D. Akin, of Macon, Ga., consulting engineer for the Monarch Mining & Smelting Co., and C. W. Platt, general manager, have been busy for the past several days locating a road for communication between the railroad and the new smelter site. A contract was let some time ago for the construction of a smelter to treat the ores of that mine and vicinity. The company proposes to install modern traction cars for the hauling of ore and material, and to that end good roads are essential. The company will build a road from the mine to connect with the county road at its own expense. As to where the company will do their trading depends upon the road facilities from the connecting point and it will be up to our people to see that we have the right kind of a road leading in to Wickenburg. The new country road was inspected by M. Akin, and he found it totally unfit for traffic as it now stands.

However, said Mr. Akin, the company will not only build their own road, but will spend some money on the county road to put it in proper shape for the accommodation of the big traction cars. The line from the mine to the county road will be about two and a half miles. An almost entirely distinct road could be built from the mine into Wickenburg covering about eight miles, however, for the present a part of the county road will be used.

Mr. Akin says that the company will commence development with a strong force so as to open the mine on a large scale in order to have the tonnage for the smelter. There will, most likely, be considerable custom ore from the immediate vicinity and the idea of the company is to have an abundance of their own as well as other ore for treatment before the smelter is blown in, which will be according to Mr. Akin's calculations, the first of January, 1912.

The Monarch already has a large tonnage of ore on the surface of the ground, and is equipped with a Chile mill which was operated with good results in concentrating the values from their ores, but a larger plant was considered more desirable, hence the letting of the contract for the construction of the smelter.—Wickenburg Miner.

Activity Is Like Old Times.

A Douglas dispatch says: One district in Sonora, Mexico, which resembles in its activity the oldtime rushes in Arizona and New Mexico at the present time, is the Tigre, about 50 miles south of Douglas, Ariz., and 23 miles east of Yzabal, a station on the Naco-Zari railroad, leading south into Mexico.

The road between Yzabal and the Tigre camp is one continuous train of heavy ore wagons and outfits transporting the machinery for the big construction work now in progress at the Lucky Tigre Mining company's property.

The Lucky Tigre is putting in a 250-ton cyanide plant, which is not only designed to handle the tailings from the mill, but also to clean up the immense dumps of tailings which have accumulated since the beginning of operations at this property, which, in its last annual report showed net profits of almost 600,000 on a capital stock of 8,000,000. The continuous Pachuca tank system, first worked out at the Pachuca mines, is incorporated in the improvements, and instead of zinc shavings the Merrill zinc dust will be used. The Kelly filtration process will probably be used also. The new cyanide plant will be located near the mouth of the main tunnel, into which

all the ore from the various workings above the seventh level will be delivered into cars by chutes. This tunnel, when driven through the mountain to the eastern slope, will also offer an outlet to the proposed extension of the Mexican Northwestern railroad, which plans building from Pearson, on the connecting link between Terrazas and Madera, a line northwest to Douglas, which will pass the Tigre camp at a distance of about 10 miles.

The Lucky Tigre company is quarrying stone for concrete foundations for the new cyanide plant and stamp mill, in quarries on the company's ground. Quantities of machinery have already been hauled out to the camp, but the greater amount is now at the Yzabel station and on the road from the different manufacturers.

Tombstone.

The shutting down of the mines of the Tombstone Consolidated Mining Company promises to cause considerable more trouble than was at first anticipated, says a Tombstone dispatch. It means not only throwing a number of men out of employment, but also the cutting off of the water supply of the Tombstone Improvement Company, so that it will cause a number of parties to obtain water from the Huachuca Water Company, whose supply at present is very limited. The gas company will be unable to obtain water sufficient to operate and the closing down of the plant leaves the city without any lights, as the electric plant was closed several weeks ago.

Stockholders of the Tombstone Consolidated Mines Company have received a letter from President F. M. Murphy, accompanying the annual reports of the general manager, superintendent and treasurer. Mr. Murphy urges the stockholders to subscribe for the collateral trust notes of the Development Company of America, the parent organization. He says:

"I was in hopes that the very liberal offer of the Development Company of America would be fully appreciated by stock and bondholders to the extent of influencing them to send in subscriptions for Development company collateral notes. I am sorry to have to say, however, that up to the present time as favorable response as was expected, and as conditions would seem to fully warrant, has not been received and it becomes necessary for me to again call the attention of stock and bondholders to the fact that unless funds are made available either through the opportunity offered by the Development Company of America or some other not now apparent, with which to protect the company's property, and, if you please, carry on a reasonable amount of development work, operations will have to come to a close to be followed by liquidation, which would, as I believe, result in almost total loss to those who have invested in this great enterprise. From such information as I have been able to gather, relating to what has been accomplished thus far, present conditions of the mines, the result of several years of extreme effort on the part of those in charge, involving the expenditure of many millions of dollars, I cannot help but reach the conclusion that it would be little short of a crime if you permit your valuable property to be abandoned at this time for the want of a few hundred thousand dollars to finish the great work that has been so persistently carried on under the greatest difficulties ever carried on in mining. I am pleased to be able to report that the principal physical difficulties have been overcome, leaving but a few thousand feet of development work to be done to demonstrate beyond a question that you have one of the most valuable mining properties in the entire country or that the judgment of mining engineers and geologists of the very highest standing and upon which we have been depending, has not been in error."

The most common cause of insomnia is disorders of the stomach. Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets correct these disorders and enable you to sleep. For sale by all dealers.

National Mines' Wonderful Riches.

Writing from the camp of National in northern Nevada, an experienced mining man from Salt Lake declares that half the men working in the National Mines property go armed and shift bosses carry six-shooters instead of picks. He says over 120 men are employed, and he has been told by men working in the mine that they have taken out 100 pounds of ore in one shift, which went 70¢ to the pound, or 7,000¢ for one man's eight hours of labor.

"From what I see and reliably hear, this is the greatest mine the world has ever known, and you do not hear much about it on the outside either," he writes. "I never saw anything like it for rich free gold ore, going from 40¢ to 100¢ a pound. If I should tell you just what I have seen you would think me crazy."

"That mine is a freak of nature. No one ever saw anything like it before, and probably never will again. The ore is free milling, but runs high in silver. When you can't see free gold in the stope it is dubbed 'no good.'"

"President John S. Pelton lately took out one boulder to Frisco, which will average 70¢ a pound or 7,000¢ for the 110 pound chunk. It was taken out from the 700 level, I hear."

"Just now the mine is in a peck of trouble over apex law suits; threatened with labor troubles besides, and worse than that the miners are said to high-grade to the queen's taste. This leakage is estimated at not less than 1,000¢ every night."

"The country is covered with snow, and I can't tell just how I shall like it until the snow melts and I can get out. The weather has been fierce."

"Phil Blom is operating the Auto Hill group. There has been a lot of leasing work, but nothing to speak of outside of the National mines. I am going to try to get a lease myself."

"I may run over to Seven Troughs, as I hear that camp has a great future.—Salt Lake Herald

Strike at the Silver Legion.

Work on the Silver Legion at Nob Hill has resulted in the finding of something that will mean a good deal for that section. Recent work has been in the nature of crosscutting

from a drift on the 100-ft level. Starting at a point some 60 feet from the shaft, a crosscut has been run for a distance of 43 feet, all in vein matter. At this point another wall was encountered, and upon breaking through this there was found to be a good grade of sulphide ore, with ribbons of richer stuff, some of which upon being submitted to a chemical test by John S. Sartain, who has charge of the work, showed values of 125¢ in gold and silver, with some lead.

There is on the Silver Legion a shaft of 140 feet in depth, with a great amount of laterals, but these are unworkable at the present time on account of water. It is certain that the present strike will be the cause of the necessary machinery being installed in the mine so that it can be thoroughly unwatered and worked to good advantage.

In reality the finding of this rich stuff is no surprise to Mr. Sartain, as there were plenty of indications on the surface of the values beneath, and it is certain that can the mine be worked at depth there will be found much greater values.

Mr. Sartain also found an insoluble white metal, the nature of which he cannot tell. He submitted it to various tests, but was unsuccessful in all of them. It occurs in small pebble form.

While doing assessment on the Daisy Belle claim on the Nob Hill Gold Mining Co., Mr. Sartain broke into a body of a foot in width of ore carrying at least 30¢ in gold. This work is in 20 feet in a tunnel. This also carries considerable lead.—Searchlight Bulletin.

Charles Anderson, who reached the city yesterday from the camp of the Big Pine mines, near Maxton, states that a few days ago a streak of eight inches of very rich silver ore was cut in the face of the main tunnel, causing considerable excitement among the miners employed at the camp. This mineral was found on the footwall, and was the first determination ever made in the property. The company is installing an air compressor and will exploit the ground with drills, a machinery being on the ground. Mr. Anderson states that the mill is being repaired and will be started in a few days, sufficient ore coming from the development under way to keep it running steadily to its full capacity.—Present Journal Miner.

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